

211606US3DIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :

Hironori FUJIOKA, et al. : EXAMINER:

SERIAL NO: New Application :

FILED: Herewith : GROUP ART UNIT:

FOR: METHOD OF PRODUCING REDUCED IRON  
AND PRODUCTION FACILITIES THEREFOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-8 and 14-22 without prejudice as follows.

--1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16 (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled) --

**REMARKS**

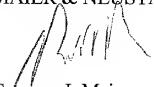
Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully  
requested.

Claims 9-13 are presently pending in this application, Claims 1-8 and 14-22 having  
been canceled by way of this Preliminary Amendment.

Examination on the merits of Claims 9-13 and an early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier  
Registration No. 25,599  
Robert T. Pous  
Registration No. 29,099  
Attorneys of Record



**22850**

(703) 413-3000  
Fax #: (703) 413-2220  
GJM/RTP/AY:si  
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